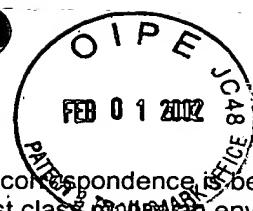


Docket No.: A-2570



2854

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the date indicated below:

By: Maryann Wolff

Date: January 14, 2002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor : Gotthard Schmid
Applic. No. : 09/688,463
Filed : October 16, 2000
Title : Modular Printing Machine System for Printing on Sheets
Examiner : Ren Luo Yan - Art Unit: 2854

R E S P O N S E

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks,
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action dated January 7, 2002, the following remarks are made:

In deference to the restriction requirement on pages 2 and 3 of the above-identified Office Action, applicant elects group I, claims 1-11, for prosecution at this time.

Applicant reserves the right to file a divisional application including the method claims of group II at a later date and/or to request a rejoinder under MPEP §821.04.

In view of the foregoing, the early issuance of an Action on the merits of claims 1-11 is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

For Applicant

Date: January 14, 2002

Lerner and Greenberg, P.A.
Post Office Box 2480
Hollywood, FL 33022-2480
Tel: (954) 925-1100
Fax: (954) 925-1101
/bmb

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